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A New Declaration of Independence.

The excellent bill to amend the public health law which is now before the Legislature as the result of the competent Health Commission appointed by Governor SULZER leaves little to be criticised. There is one point, however, that demands more serious consideration than it appears to have received. This act singles out New York city among all the cities of this State for independence of the supervision of the State health authorities, without stating any reason for this distinction. As the commission which recommended this act is officered and probably led by those members who are now part and parcel of the sanitary administration good reason regards its sanitary government as above reproach

It is but too true that New York city so wise and energetic a sanitary super-State Health Commissioner shall be as is necessary. appointed for six years, the changes in this department will not be so frequent latter. Moreover the new law provides ous to the House to-day. that the Health Commissioner must have been so guarded. To forestall the Ivory! possible dangers of these recurrent Be it good, pretty good, fair, bad. Health Commissioner.

It is obvious that such supervision will not interfere with the regulations of a city board of health whose action is in accord with accepted principles Health Commissioner except in strictly to promote their cause. Commissioner should not have the authan a wood of swaying white birches. the remedving of it?

The act should be so worded that the growth. autonomy of the city health boards shall be fully recognized in all local questions. while the State health authorities are invested with untrammelled jurisdiction in all matters concerning the welfare of the State. Under the law now sentiment of the nation, the Honunder consideration New York city is THOMAS RILEY MARSHALL propones: authorized to disregard the interests of other portions of the State if it so chooses, but is not amenable to a recip-

rocal discipline. Aside from these and other practical legislation to place New York city upon dumb man for the next forty-six and a a pinnacle of sanitary holiness towering half months, the sum of human happihigh above all other cities in the State. ness would be greatly increased.

the Union or the world. While the present high standing of the health management of our city may fact must be borne in raind that the new health law is not to be enacted for toprotection of the State and the city, an integral part of the State.

A Traditional Policy Assailed.

and to construct it in such fashion as to side or the other. make its extension a matter of little. To challenge the tally a man would needed in the future.

further growth.

25 Commissioner SMITH is an iconoclast. 2 50 He will do well to guard himself against attack by those who will be alarmed and affrighted over his bold projection of intelligence into city administration.

Remaking the State Constitution.

Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau street, in the Borough of Manhatian, New York, President and Treasurer, William C. Reick, 170 of holding a constitutional convention Nassaustreet Vice-Fresident Edward P. Mitchell, would be submitted to the voters at the would be submitted to the voters at the general election of 1916, but all the politi-London office, Effingham House, 1 Arundel for an earlier convocation. Hence the majority in the Legislature is entirely justified in its contention that the bills which have been passed by both houses are in accordance with the pledges If our friends who favor us with manuscripts and given to the voters before the election

The objection to these measures is answered in the affirmative, for the electhis is an "off year" in the State election. delegate to the convention.

The best thing to do under the circumstances would be to defeat the proposal for a constitutional convention in June, of the great city it doubtless and with and have the question submitted again in 1916. Filled though these days be with wisdom, a delay of two years in remaking the Constitution would not has not for a long time if ever enjoyed affect seriously any great principle or reform. Were this course adopted the vision as it now has; but it is also true platform pledges of 1912 would have that times change and Health Com- been fulfilled, the city elections would missioners change with them. Since be undisturbed in 1913, and the Constituthe new law wisely provides that the tion would receive attention as early

Short Be the Pang!

certain special qualifications for his shipped to the Senate by May 15 and attract attention, and a close police office, while up to the present adminis- become law by July 1 be dreams from inspection of all suspected establishtration the city health office has not the Gate of Horn and not the Gate of ments would shut up their shops in

changes the new law should be so pretty bad or indifferent, hurry it up. dealers in stolen goods, and the mere worded that no city or town shall be Have the operation and the agony over watching of their places of business exempt from supervision of the State and let business pick up, get out and wouldend their activities. This done, the go about its business!

The White Birch as a Symbol.

The suffragettes who seized the top of hygiene, as is that of New York of the monument on Fish Street Hill ful business man and he sees the danger city now. There could be no clash and barricaded the gate to flaunt the to the Democrats should too high hopes of authority on these vital matters, banner of "Votes for Women" over be excited of instant reduction of the cost and any clash upon other points is Billingsgate would doubtless regard as of living as a result of tariff reduction. not worth providing for. For purposes weaklings Mrs. HARRIOT STANTON There may be "some lowering," but it will of harmonious sanitary efficiency New Blatch, Miss INEZ MILHOLLAND and York city should, like other cities, be their sisters who planted five white under the jurisdiction of the State birch trees on the Central Park green

local matters. Examples to demon- The selection of this variety of birch strate the absolute correctness of this was a happy inspiration. Betula popuproposition are abundant. The follow-lifelia, white, slender and graceful, is ing are illustrations: At a public din- the most admired of American trees ner in Goshen seventeen undoubted Poets, painters and naturalists acknowlcases of typhoid fever, resulting in one edge its enduring charm. In a land death, besides thirty-three cases of where woman's influence is greater than gastro-intestinal diseases, were traced elsewhere in the world this tree is apby Dr. STILES of the Public Health Ser- propriately known as "the lady of the vice to oysters taken from the waters forest." Wherever there are homes of Jamaica Bay and floated in a creek outside the city, in the valley and on the near Canarsie. Dr. STILES discovered slope, in sight of every shining river and that millions of gallons of sewage find in every sequestered spot, the white their outlet in Jamaica Bay. In such a birch is treasured above other trees. case is there any reason why the State There are few things more beautiful

thority to direct the city Health Com- In America the ballot is not to be won missioner to investigate and report on for women by violence and grotesque the matter and to enforce if necessary publicity, but by appealing to reason and the kindling of sympathy. The Outbreaks of typhoid fever have oc- most womanly among the leaders and curred in dairy districts which the in- advocates of the cause are its successspectors know are supplying the city ful promoters in this country. They with milk, cream and butter. Should command respect regard and confidence. not the State Health Commissioner be The methods employed by them are empowered to direct the city health never repellent. The woman suffragists officers to ascertain whether any con- in America could choose no better symbol sumers of these dairy products have than the white birch. Among trees it sickened, and thus aid in fathoming the best represents an American's ideal of true source and extent of the epidemie? | womanhood; and it is a tree of rapid

Eyes and Tongues.

Emerging from one of his conferences with those unnamed "thoughtful" advisers who keep him informed on the

The rich are blind.

Of the truth of this statement we know nothing, but we are driven to the belief that if the Hon. THOMAS RILEY objections it would be a curiosity of MARSHALL would give an imitation of a

The New England Leaven.

At the annual maple sugar feast the condone such action, the momentous other night in Springfield, where the power of the New England digestion is proved by the consumption of doughday or to-morrow, but for the future nuts and cucumber pickles as well as the product of the sugar bush, Professor HENRY W. HULBERT triumphed over "the fashion of late to give New England a place in the rear column of the So accustomed are New Yorkers to American procession." He had apthe development of the water front to parently read "Who's Who in America" meet the needs of yesterday that Dock from cover to cover and digested it, for Commissioner SMITH's plans for a long he announced that more than 20 per pier at the foot of West Forty-sixth cent, of the 18,794 celebrated persons street will probably be received with whose names are collected in it were general incredulity. Mr. SMITH actu- born in New England. He calculated

ally purposes to build a pier large enough that at least half of all the immortals or any ship now in service or building, were of New England parentage on one

difficulty in case a greater length is have to scan each separate page of the 2,363 in that compilation of eminent and This is revolutionary. It violates all self-selected Americans, and it is easier the precedents of the Dock Department. to allow that Professor HULBERT is It overturns a treasured tradition of right. This 20 per cent., he says, "were of and powers under Assembly bill No. the city. It suggests good sense, good brought up under the peculiar racial management and business prevision, and stimulating intellectual and moral It is in violent opposition to the prac- conditions that prevailed in these parts tice of the past, which has been to pro- [New England] from 1820 to about 1880. and which had the formative part to 75 to ignore entirely the probabilities of play in these lives, giving them their bent and inspiration and putting leadership naturally in their hands."

But there is even a larger view than this, and the remarkable thing is that it escaped a mind so analytical. All the Who's Who are not in "Who's Who in America." Some are not chosen, and some do not try to break into the charmed circle. There are meritorious but humble people who do great things that are not proclaimed from the house-j top, and there are others of no particular cal conventions of last year declared genius who lack the push to get into the company of the marshalled great in 'Who's Who." All is not gold that glitters there.

Now it must be obvious that a whole lot of people of New England birth or parentage and who have enjoyed New England culture are not on the published roll of merit. One cannot count that they provide for a special election them, which is an advantage in a way shall be held, and, if this question is can be estimated in full round numbers. The influence of New England in mouldtion of delegates thereto at the general ing the conscience and thought and conelection in November. This programme tributing to the progress of the country is denounced as a Tammany scheme for must therefore be much greater than hampering fusion on a city ticket here Professor Hulbert conceives. The this, fall through creating dissension margin may be anywhere from 50 per among the various politicians opposed | cent. up. There is perhaps no way to to the regular Democratic organization determine it except by conning the cenin New York county. On the other hand, sus returns in Washington. It would be no such easy task as turning the and outside of New York city suitable pages of "Who's Who." Will any man for the consideration of candidates for of New England birth or parentage volunteer?

Truck Thieves.

Nobody who is acquainted with the number of thefts from trucks and delivery wagons will doubt the statement of a confessed receiver of stolen goods that his profits amounted to \$50,000 in a little over three months. The losses of business houses through the dishonesty of drivers reach a great sum each year. Yet there seems to be no reason why this form of robbery should not be reduced to inconsiderable proportions.

All thieves of this kind depend on receivers of stolen goods to take their loot from them promptly. Most of these receivers are in New York city, as those in the city health department. Not greatly changed the tariff bill though some transact their business nor will they be synchronous with the comes back from the Democratic cau- in nearby New Jersey settlements. Wherever their headquarters are, the May the prophecies that it will be business they carry on cannot fail to short order. No great skill is needed in the detective department to discover work of suppressing out of town "fences" would be comparatively simple.

> The Hon. WILLIAM C. REDFIELD, Secretary of Commerce, is a shrewd and success-Wise caution! Mr. REDFIELD continues:

" Tariff reduction does not cut all the roots of the high cost of living. It strikes at some

We wonder just how the people are going to deal, for example, with the increased production of gold.

The Republican party has retained its osition .- Cincinnati Commercial Tribune. The position seems to be that of the Hon. JOHN PHOENIX when he held his opponent down.

Queerer and queerer brains seem to be ours all the time .- Hartford Times. Always room in the top, as they say of

"Uncle Tom's Gabbin'."

empty lofts.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir. It seems to me, with all due respect, that you do not quite twig the quality and meaning of Vice-President Marshall's oratorica What is new in the political purlieus of Washington and the clean shaved and unwoolly East generally is normal, established and venerated in In-All Indiana oratory is now founded upon the school of Indiana fiction, which s frankly emotional, unreserved and un-chackled. "Uncle Tom," as he is affecshackled. tionately called out here, steps right out of the Declaration of Independence and calmly resumes where that now largely forgotten

If God has not sent President Wilson to perpetuate Jeffersonianism then a great many applicants for Federal office in this state are doomed to be bogged in awful disappointment Just give Uncle Tom a chance

A GEORGE ADE DEMOCRAT. NEW ALBANY, Ind., April 17.

The Bird Cage.

Among the bills introduced in the California A line of light on legislation's page

Effulgent even as the Golden Gate, To which it owes its origin lanate Oh, for John Hancock's pen to scroll the date! The dicky bird must have a three foot

cage. A hymn, a pman progressive as the age, Or bulbuls brooding over labyrinthine

Or aught auricularly melting you may The dicky bird must have a three foot cage

Why, let the heathen rage Let pomp and power paralyzed depart. As erst at Nineveh and Tyre: start Each equine buoyantly before his cart-The dicky bird must have a three foot

Here, then, ye Solons, is your guide and gage! Aim at it in the future as a star. mark that upward towers from afar To last as long as Phœbus drives his car

The dicky bird must have a three foot cage

MAURICE MORRIS.

THE AUTOPSY BILL.

Statement From the Physician Who Is

Its Author, With Brief Comment. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Will ou permit me to correct a misconception in the mind of the writer of the editorial article "An Invasion of Private Rights, which appeared in THE SUN of April 17 and which purports to analyze the provisions 1,206, entitled "An Act to Amend the Public Health Law in Relation to the Control and Regulation of Autopsies"?

If you will refer to this bill, a copy of which I enclose, you will see that it provides: autopsy held within the State of New York (priate and official shall be filed with the Corone State Commissioner of Health, whereupon it shall become a matter of public record open to the inspection of and transcription by one affected or likely to be affected in a civil or criminal action by its contents, upon an order of a court of record or of a Justice of the Supreme Court.

preme Court it would be difficult to see how would be possible for such a record to be open to the curious or criminally inclined as the language of your editorial article

In the State of New York to-day the loca boards of health, acting under the authority of the State Public Health law, are empowered to provide, and do provide, rules and egulations in regard to certificates of March Atlantic Monthly there is a considerbirths and deaths and require that every able article called "The Life of Irony," by death certificate shall be certified to by a Mr. R. S. Bourne, who appears to me to duly qualified physician, and so strictly is the literal, whose sense is the opposite of engaged recently in determining whether the literal, with "humor," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were considered that the opposite of the literal, with "humor," a mode of speech that the courts were considered to the confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were considered to the confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded to the confounded "frony," a mode of speech that the courts were confounded that the courts were con or not an osteopath was qualified so to or thought that gives an imaginative and certify, and so jealously are those records guarded that even a physician bent upon collecting material for a scientific paper a method"; and further, "the life of irony in June to decide whether a convention to the sociologist and thinker, for they guarded that even a physician bent upon may not have access to those records, and has the virtues of the religious life without tion by one affected * * upon an order of i Supreme Court precisely as I would have trivial and trivial treatment of the solemn utopsy records safeguarded. As the law now stands the coroner is the are."

investigation or autopsy, or all of these means, the cause of death in cases where a physician has not been in attendance and cannot certify, or where the element of criminality appears to exist. Whatever may be the personal opinion of doctors with regard to the usefulness or dignity of the regard to the usefulness or dignity of the set of the control of the contr regard to the usefulness or dignity of the a touch of irony", "irony is essential to an coroner as a public officer, the fact remains | real honesty.
that he is the official designated by the law | Hold: enou all the details which might ction may learn until and unless at the one just presented in cold type.

Irony is, in fact, but a mode of humor all of a case, months later, the facts and letails are wrong from the often unwilling only a portion of its world; humor is the disips of the autopsy surgeon, who has become he quasi-partisan witness for the prose- the French are just now worshipping the ution in a criminal case, or for either party life of irony and that is why we English o a civil case, and who may or may not be take their view of the world as special, competent pathologist. respectfully refer you to the derivation of the word "surgeon" (from "chirurgeon." meaning hand work; as my warranty for its use here and in the language of the bill, since am the "solon," as you graciously put it

Others than this solon know that in private autopsies all the vital organs (what organs are not vital') are rarely examined, the inquiry being limited to definite points to be elucidated. you strike the very keynote of the need for this bill: for if your estimable editor were a policyholder in an accident insurance company and some other policyholder was seen to fall out of a boat and was buried under a certificate of "drowning" he would

who framed it. When you say that

be inclined to think that the brain of that corpse was of sufficient importance as a cital organ to warrant an investigation of s condition and a record of the fact that a opious cerebral hemorrhage had robbed hat man of life before he struck the water and that this was a death from natural and not accidental causes, yet the brain of that corpse was not examined until after the ody had been buried and exhumed because the autopsy was limited to the "definite point to be elucidated" and that definite point was the preconceived theory of drown-ing, which might be pardoned in a policeman but hardly in a pathologist surgeon The law expressly makes the knowledge

acquired by a physician in his professional f the more artificial causes of that cost and capacity a privileged communication, and makes it easier for the people as a whole to that code provision intends that the section deal with the other real problems involved shall be used as "a shield and not a club," but if the investigation into the death of an individual, whether conducted by a private physician upon the consent of the family or a public physician by operation of law be made the instrument through which the life, liberty or property of another is jeop- respect for the pure food law. ardized, who shall cry "Privilege!" when the one vitally interested invokes the provisions of Assembly bill 1,206, under its code num ber, to insure to him that the pathologist or surgeon who performs an autopsy, whether honest or dishonest, competent or incompetent, is obliged to record, not a lot of | York. My trees have yielded about 30 per pathological data which agree with and support his preconceived theory of the cause of death, like the case cited above, but the ruth, the whole truth and nothing but the ruth, and with that record complete properly recorded and safeguarded from ne "curious and criminally inclined" by the nield of a "court of record or a Justice of the Supreme Court," it matters not whether defendant by reason of the rule of "exclusive opportunity" or becomes the potential defendant months after a body has been buried, he may by due process of law in-spect the record and see if the autopsy surgeon has erred in his diagnosis upon the facts in record. The Society of Medical Jurisprudence of New York city demonstrated the unwisdom of relying too strongly upon the infallibility or honesty of the autopsy surgeon when, as a result of experiments upon cadavers they produced, through the process of embalming, the very diagnosis at the autopsy of the man, Rice, For the old time girl in the sailor ha in the famous Patrick case.

As to the "hidden conditions and unsussected diseases, the nature of which must | For it wasn't as big as an umbereil. e sacredly withheld by the physician because their revelation may endanger the peace and happiness of a family and may made the basis of blackmail by evil minded persons," let me suggest that the same attitude of society, which holds that were better that "a hundred guilty men should escape than that one innocent person should suffer," applies with special force when that innocent man may be adjudged guilty upon the testimony of an autopsy surgeon upon whom there is no check, and let me ask you, Mr. Editor, if a civil action or a criminal action be predicated upon a death, the actual cause for which may e a syphilis or chronic alcoholism active in a brain, does not the "sacred withholding" of this fact by any physician, private or public, savor of "blackmail" and worse by

This bill was submitted to a committee of the Academy of Medicine of New York city and was discussed by me with their representative and with representative men in law and in medicine and save for the wish, expressed by one, that the channel of communication might be the local Health Board (professional) rather than the Cor. oner (lay) I have yet to hear a single criti-cism save yours and I feel confident that THE SUN, which has been noted for its fairness, will not only recognize the mis-conception of its editorial writer but will correct the false impression in the minds it is not well for any one to brag of its readers by printing this explanation. But any soph more class could te and its own recognition of the merit of this how bill for the protection of the individual To work such stunts and truly raise a rew and corporate citizen, who to-day may Yet as a first attempt, perhaps 'twill pass believe himself secure but to-morrow may Since militants are in the freshman class. be the victim of circumstances which would

place him at the mercy of an incompetent or dishonest autopsy surgeon (private o

public) upon whose theory there was no

BROOKLYN, April 18.

Our readers will decide whether this special plea is sufficient justification for the invasion of their private rights in a most sacred matter, also whether or not a shrewd lawyer will ever fail to obtain the protection of those rights? The people the necessary "order from a court of of England support the English Government record" for the details of the autopsy findings which he may desire for illegal ment has not detended them. purposes. There appears to be no parallel in the case of the birth and death A copy of the findings and diagnosis of every records with the record of a private autopsy

endeavors to prove his contention by two concrete coroners' cases

The statement with regard to the Academy of Medicine is surprising in view of the fact that the editorial article was Unless you impugn the integrity and written in response to the urgent request ommon decency of the Coroners and the of the executive secretary of the executive Judges of the courts of record and of the Su- committee of the Academy of Medicine, who wrote: "It seems to be greatly desirable that it [this bill] be killed.

IRONY AND HUMOR. Is the Former Only a Mode and Pattern

of the Latter? EDITOR OF THE SUN-SO.

I have yet to hear of a case of "blackmail" its defects"; "that democratic, sympathetic predicated upon those records which are outlook upon the feelings and thoughts open to the inspection of and transcripupon an order of irony irony is thus the truest sympa-"the ironist insists on seeing things as they are," "things as they are thrown against legally constituted authority" who is the background of things as they ought to forever the problem of these furies? charged with determining by inspection, be"; "the ironist is ironical not because he | New YORK, April 20. A READER.

Hold! enough! though much more could as the one to determine the cause of death be cited and alleged. Suppose the candid ander certain circumstances, and we must reader to repeat the foregoing paragraph ake the law and its officers as we find them; out this very practical fact must be borne of "irony" wherever it occurs. Allowing for mind, that only a bare diagnosis, stripped a few obvious exaggerations of the Atlantic thight | gentleman, which are neither true for iron; warrant such diagnosis, is all that the nor for humor, I submit that the amended otential defendant to a civil or criminal reread paragraph is truer to life than the

inguishing trait of English speaking folk Here I would partial, limited. IRENE MCGILLICUDDY. WEST POINT, April 19.

AMBER NECTAR.

The Purity of Maple Sugar Syrup Ex tolled by a Producer. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir

cently THE SUN printed a note on the threatened shortage of the maple crop and commented editorially thereon The statement was made that periodic

scares are "thrown into" the lovers of sweets just as similar alarmist reports come ou each year relative to the loss of the Delaware and Georgia peach crops, and the pub-lic was cautioned to take the reports of the shortage with a grain of salt. The editorial ust as much maple syrup this year as hereby adding that whether the trees produced or not Yankee ingenuity would supply the or not vankee ingenuity would supply the deficiency, and the reader was given to man feels that the purse cannot withstand inter that maple symp is adulterated by

from the farmers direct in tin cans or from but the pure sap of the maple, and as such t is the most wholesome sweet on the mar ket and the sweet nearest nature of any brands to which glucose has been added in greater or less degree, but these are invariably put up in fancy packages, bottles. quite likely, with labels skating over the thin ice of prevarication. The farmer, without a label to hide behind, no matter what his intentions are. therefore, is to purchase maple original packages and not after it has gone brough the "factory.

Despite the gloomy reports noticed in THE SUN the maple crop is better than usual this year, at least in northern New

cent, more sap than last year JOHN B. BURNHAM

Where Charles Reade Lived and Worked From the London Evening Standard.

The house in Knightsbridge where Charles "Foul Play." "The Wandering Heir" and other works, of which the most famous, perhaps, was an adaptation of Zola's novel brought him £20,000.

The Saller Hat.

When I was a boy of about sixteen Nor purple nor blue nor pink nor pied And they didn't have birds at the top and

side, And they didn't have parrot or ostrich plumes. And they didn't have spinach or other

upon which was made the And I fell in love-and I still stand

Twas a simple contraption built of straw But the bonniest bonnet that ever I saw And it wasn't as wide as the mouth of hell And it wasn't so floppy its brim came down And covered the half of the little old town Yet it wasn't at all too small, at that— Oh, the old time, gold time sailor hat!

Twas a straight brim straw with a ribbon That was bought by the yard instead of

As small as the point of a British joke And it didn't hang down and hide the ears And it wasn't befurred like a coon or a cat Oh, the dear old fashioned sailor hat I am going out now to hunt and find

And when that delicious delight I discover I'll bow to her, yow to her, cherish and love For her I can coddle and her I can kiss-(And I'm hoping my wife won't happen on For if she should read it she'll break me flat

The girl of the hat that I have in mind

ROBERTUS LOVE. A Demonstration.

For a nineteen thirteen sailor hat.)

Like a tall built lifts its head and lies." Two suffragettes have raised their vellow Hag

Where London's column, pointing to the

But any soph more class could teach them

PANKHURSTIAN ANTICS.

They Martial Law and Gore.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIG have heard much about the rights of women lately and nothing at all about the rightof the public. May I suggest that the public lie have rights, even in England, and that they pay his Majesty's Government for Report to Curran Committee to defend them, and the English Govern iency to the militants it is defrauding the country, for it is failing to fulfil a duty thrust on it by its acceptance of the people's SAME.

May I ask your definition of "militancy our strictures referred altogether to the country in which such autopsy is held and a transcript thereof filed by the Coroner with the private autopsies, but our correspondent littled ends on people who have nothing to do with politics; but grant for the sake of argument it is only nected with politics, where is it to end We shall soon have the socialists dynamiting the Prime Minister's house to prevent h asking for more ships, and the Conservatives dynamiting his house to make that he does ask for them. But as the sport of blowing him up can only be indulged in once it is very much pleasanter to substi tute the public, then one can prolong his *musements

Militancy" would save one the trouble I'm now taking and incidentally giving you were I a militant I should either blow you up or, scorning such small game, topple over the Woolworth Building or kidnap the Mayor. This, according to the militants, would be the best possible argument against militancy, which I deplore.

A word more. Militancy invites one of two replies, perhaps both mob law or martial law. Either the Government must protect the British public by military severity or the British public will protect itself by mob fury, commonly called lynching. Martial law seems to me the best. A shot and the whole business would be over.

"Horrible," you say. No doubt. But less horrible than train wrecks and dynamitings, less horrible than lynchings, less horrible than the fever of apprehension nov eating away the heart of England. Shades of Cromwell and Wellington

Where are her men? Will they have to call Kitchener from Egypt to settle once and

COSTLY SHOWERS.

Polite Modern Method of Collecting Gifts for Those Who Don't Need Them.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Here engaged to marry; some feminine friend If the bride to be gets up a "shower" for her, usually a "linen shower" or "silk stocking shower," or something similar. Never anything so ordinary as a "liste stocking shower.

There is of course no objection to a friend of a girl who is to be married getting other friends to shower upon her every good thing within or without their means, but the thing becomes positively objectionable when the girl starting the shower includes upon her list of those invited to the shower the names of persons who while known to the bride to be and herself scarcely ever meet and have practically no intercourse whatever except in a hearsay sort of way. An invitation to a "shower" means bring to a little eatfest an article of linen or pai of silk stockings, &c., meant as a "surprise for the showered one. There are occasions when a relative does the "getting up" with the connivance of the one to be "surprised" of friendship is slender one dislikes breaking it by a refusal to respond suitably to such an invitation, which really amounts to

a command to bring something not matter so much, perhaps, but there are vitation hurts. If a pair of silk stockings is given, naturally the giver wants the quality to compare favorably with those given by others. Not that women do such Police Department, with its peculiar fa a thing as to compare gifts of that nature. of those engineering the deal, and women have what to a man's benighted viewpoint of

upon people of means, who could easily ford to buy any of the articles showere upon them, whereas those to whom such howers would prove a godsend are neve seldom so favored, yet have to help swell the pride of the showered ones every now and again. The whole infernal busi ness looks to me nothing less than a rank feminine friends to give the girl an en

OLD FASRIONED HUSBAND. NEW YORK, April 20.

Elevated Boulevards.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIZ requent killing and maining of people on efficiency a system of increased pay the streets realls to my mind a suggestion ade to the writer by the late Colonel Albert A. Pope, who some fifteen years ago declared that New York city traffic would in few years be such that elevated boule vards would have to be built to run beltlike records. The present system. around the city with runways from same at frequent intervals so that a man could at almost any point between uptown and and does not indicate how well be had the Battery. This would take a lot of done his work traffic from the main thoroughfares, so that In this conne

nedestrians would have some room people are not killed or injured, as the fault is very seldom with the motor car driver but rather with the preoccupied pedestrian I also find that with the great nervous strain on city people they frequently get "rattled" and step right in front of danger, whereas the average countryman would step out In other words, our nerves are going would strike an average of a patrol fast, and we shall be things of "shakes" in the near future.

matter, as the suggestion by the great automobile and bicycle maker seems certainly feasible

Motorists could make better time and have a track all to themselves, while the pedes-trians would live longer. W. J. Morgan. NEW YORK, April 20.

The Fundamentals.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Sena tor Root's lecture at Princeton upon "The Essentials of the Constitution" is one of the best things I have read in these days of demagogy. It sounds like a voice John Marshall or like a lecture on Black-

Not since my law school days have I read anything that contrasted so sanely, intelli gently and wisely with the remarks of Vice-President Marshall. EDGAR M. KEATOR. BROOKLYN, April 19.

"And Not a Drop to Drink. The Ancient Mariner was sighing for

Why not be a New York city officeholder and have the taxpayers buy you bottled water?" we suggested

When the Round Court House Opens. Judge-You. 'narged with intexication Prisoner-I'm not drunk, your Honor, i ust get this way from trying to find my way around in this checsebox

No Surprise. Mrs. Knicker- Now we are told there is

Knicker-I know that's where a

Stir One Observer to Demand DE ROODE HAS PLAN

FOR BETTER POLICE

Urges New Eligiba

List Yearly. FOR PROMOTIONS

Young Men on Force Have Little Chance to Rise-

Higher Salaries.

The Curran committee investigation

the Police Department not a real I from Albert De Roode, ex-secretar the Civil Service Reform Associaand recently appointed by the Mayor reorganize the Examining Board o Plumbers, in which radical changes are recommended in the system of appoin ment and promotion in the Police D partment. Mr. De Roode urged that the cit

service eligible lists for appointmen as patrolmen should not continue for more than one year, and that examina tions and new lists be made each year Under the present law lists may cotinue for four years. If more frequen lists are established the department will pick its men from the top of the list, instead of having to appoint me who barely got on the list.

Mr. De Roode makes the same re ommendation in regard to promolists of men already in the department But four examinations for promot to captain have been held since five for lieutenants and three for geants. The long life of these made the Commissioner pick men promotion who did not pass the e amination with great credit.

Too much weight is given to sent ity, Mr. De Roode says, and he point out that the younger men on the for have not had much chance to rise. 6,691 members of the force who join since consolidation, and who have beon the force more than six years, on fifty have risen above the rank patrolman. Of these forty-seven ha become sergeants, one lieutenant, on captain and one inspector.

Mr. De Roode believes in a longer probationary period; that should mean something, and not be but negative trial. He says:

"During this probationary nvestigation as made and this investigation sho made jointly by the Civil Service mission and the Police Departme Civil Service Commission should called upon to inquire into the el-of all persons on the list befo are appointed, nor should the Police partment rely upon the fact that man is on a civil service conclusive with regard to his char

"By examining into character de-probation both the Police Department the Civil Service Commission longer opportunity and therefore comore effective inquiry than dur short period which precedes the est lishment of a list and appointments in the list. It seems to me that the je investigation could work out satisfact somewhat along the following Civil Service Commission shou the investigation so far as it has

cilities for finding out about character Oh, no! The refusal to give at all would for assistance.

probably mean getting on the blacklist "During the probationary period care ful record should be kept of the condutrained and observed as to police dut As a producer I desire to say that the farmer does not adulterate his maple product. The thin, amber syrup that comes from the farmer discar in the comes are the farmer discar in the comes are the comes and the comes are the company of the compan

the Commissioner could not take awa "The captain acting as an inspect s between the devil and the deep sea the report says, "and he cannot con the captains under him, for who know

when he may be reduced?" In five years and seven months for: six captains have been assigned as it spectors. Of these nineteen are no serving as such. The constant redu ion of inspectors at the whim of Commissioner upsets and disturbs the

morale of the force.

Mr. De Roode points out that for most of the force there can be no promotion, so as an incentive for increas fixed periods should be established those who attain a required standard of efficiency. He urges a more thorough system of

out, being a system of demerits, either shows a man has broken departmen nter the boulevard uptown and run off rules or that he has kept out of trouble In this connection he thinks that me

should serve as patrolmen for only five years, unless they attain a place on promotion list or where the recshows the man is up to the standard. he falls below he should be automat cally dismissed from the force. Instead of appointing a man at \$50 and raising him to \$1,400 Mr. De Rood

This would not cost the city any more Possibly our engineers will look into this money, and the new patrolmen would get a living wage. Mr. D. Roode's other recommends "Discipline should be chiefly enforced

man's pay for five years and pay the

through the rating of the service is and where personal punishment is sired by curtailment of privileges to than loss of pay Provision should be made for d sal upon the basis of continued clency as shown in the service record

M'GOWAN MEMORIAL SERVICE. Royal Areanum Council Hears Ento-

gles of Dead Merchant. Celtie Council, No. 978, Royal A held memorial services in York sino yesterday afternoon for P McGowan. A great number of t bers gathered to do honor to the head of the Board of Aldermen.

There were prayers and hyperthen three phases of Mr. Mcflowar, were the subjects of addresses; ".

F. Mcflowar, ". McGowan, the Christian. Francis J. Sullivan; "Patrick F. McG the Man," by John F. Walsh, and k F. McGowan, the Royal Past Supreme Regent Howard S. Will

Commercial Commission to Confer. The American commission

auspices of the Southern Comme gress which will go abroad next day to study the question of agrilloans and credits will hold a collat the Hotel McAlpin on Friday. Second Baby—We are now judged by points.

Second Baby—Well. I had two sticking me all day, and they couldn't find 'em.

L. C. Fletcher of Florida, chairman American commission appointed by ident Wilson, will preside at the ence, which will be attended by 125 delegates.